

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

ORM-03 SR-02 AID-20 ABF-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /129 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1123

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4779

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UNRWA

SUBJ: UNRWA IN 28TH UNGA

REF: CHASE-VUNOVICH TELCON, NOV. 14

1. AS LAST SPEAKER ON SIZEABLE LIST FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE DEBATE ON UNRWA, KUWAIT REP NO. 14 MENTIONED AT END OF LENGTHY SPEECH APPARENT ABSENCE THIS YEAR OF ANY RES CONTINUING WORKING GROUP (WG). SAID HE FELT THIS USEFUL ELEMENT AND EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS COOPERATE IN ANY MOVE TO EXTEND ITS LIFE.

2. IN LOBBY CONVERSATION AFTER SPC MTG, KUWAIT PERMREP TOLD MISOFF RES CONTINUING WG WOULD BE OFFERED. WHEN ASKED IF KUWAIT WOULD SPONSOR, HE ONLY SAID THAT SUCH RES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

3. COMMENT: IN EARLIER CONVERSATION, KUWAIT PERMREP HAD SAID KUWAIT WOULD NOT RPT NOT SPEAK ON UNRWA IN SPC, TELLING MISOFF THAT GOK REFUSAL TO INCREASE 1973 PLEDGE TO COVER DOLLAR DEVALUATION LOSS AT TIME CONGEN WAS
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PLEADING FOR ADDITIONAL PLEDGES TO MEET BUDGET DEFICIT

WOULD MAKE SUCH INTERVENTION AWKWARD. FYI--RELATIVE
FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF UNRWA NOT RPT NOT CRITERION OBSERVED
BY MANY IMPASSIONED INTERVENERS IN CURRENT DEBATE. END FYI.
KUWAIT SPEECH (BY SPECIAL ADVISER DR. FAVEZ SAVEGH)
WAS ONE OF MORE RATIONAL AND REASONED OF ENTIRE DEBATE.
TANZANIA (SECONDED BY AFGHANISTAN, GUINEA AND SENEGAL)
ASKED SPC SECRETARIAT TO REPRODUCE TEXT AND
CIRCULATE, AN UNUSUAL ACCOLADE.

4. PERMREP AND DR. SAYEGH'S COMMENTS ON WORKING GROUP
SUGGEST THAT KUWAIT MAY BE TAKING THE LEAD (OR AT LEAST
BE INVOLVED IN) ACTION TO CONTINUE WG. NEVERTHELESS,
BELIEVE THIS POOR TIME TO SUGGEST NOMINATION OF KUWAIT
TO WG (REF TELCOM) AS THIS COULD BE INTERPRETED AS
TACTLESS PLOY TO PROVOKE KUWAIT INTO MORE GENEROUS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA. MOREOVER ARAB GROUP ALREADY
REPRESENTED ON WG BY LEBANON, WHICH ACTS AS SPOKESMAN FOR
ALL, SO EFFORT TO GET SECOND ARAB INTO GROUP MIGHT BE
CONSIDERED REDUNDANT OR EVEN AFFRONT TO ARAB SOLIDARITY.
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